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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Baker Botts LLP
2001 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75201-2980

EXAMINER

BULLOCK JR, LEWIS ALEXANDER

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2126

DATE MAILED: 03/10/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/658,162

Applicant(s)

ZURAWSKI, JOHN C.

Examiner

Lewis A. Bullock, Jr.

Art Unit

2126

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 September 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2,4-6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by MELTZER (US 6,542,912).

As to claim 1, MELTZER teaches a method, comprising the steps of: providing a set of predetermined function definitions which are different (different services / different transactions) (col. 11, lines 41-57); and preparing a project definition (business interface definition) expressed in a public communication protocol (XML), the project definition including: a plurality of function portions (transactions) which each correspond to one of the function definitions in the set (service set), and which each define at least one input port (input document / modules to be carried in the document) and at least one output port (output document / modules of the document) that are functionally related according to the corresponding function definition; a further portion which includes a source portion (interface definition of the input document) identifying a data source (issuer) and defining an output port through which data from the data source can be produced and which includes a destination portion (interface definition of the output

document) identifying a data destination (counter party) and defining an input port through which data can be supplied to the data destination; and binding information (transaction description) which includes binding definitions that each associate a respective input port (via pointer to issuer) with one of the output ports (via pointer to counterparty) (col. 10, lines 3-50; col. 11, line 25 – col. 12, line 45; col. 13, lines 1-10; col. 26, lines 56-65; col. 27, lines 15-40; col. 27, line 65 – col. 28, line 23; col. 3, lines 31-58; col. 4, lines 31-54).

As to claim 2, MELTZER teaches selecting as the public communication protocol the extensible Markup Language (XML) protocol (XML) (col. 3, lines 41-45).

As to claim 3, MELTZER teaches that one of the function definitions (services) implements a function which varies in dependence on control input (the format of the input document); and wherein the preparing step includes the step of including in the project definition (business interface definition), for each function portion therein that corresponds to the one of the function definitions, respective control information for use as the control input ("Each definition expresses a contract or promise to carry out a service if a valid request is submitted to the specified Web address."; "In effect, the company is promising to do business with anyone who can submit a Purchase Order that conforms to the XML specification it declares.") (col. 19, lines 40-64).

As to claim 4, MELTZER teaches the preparing includes the step of including in the project definition (business interface definition) a list (multiple transaction BID) which identifies at least some of the function (operations), source (input), and destination portions (output) (fig. 2, col. 10, lines 3-50; col. 4, lines 45-54). MELTZER also teaches for a function portion setting forth any control information (format of the input document) for that portion ("Each definition expresses a contract or promise to carry out a service if a valid request is submitted to the specified Web address."; "In effect, the company is promising to do business with anyone who can submit a Purchase Order that conforms to the XML specification it declares.") (col. 19, lines 40-64). It is inherent in the teachings of MELTZER that all function portions contain a control information as to the format of the input received.

As to claim 5, MELTZER teaches the preparing includes the step of including in the project definition (business interface definition) a plurality of process definitions (transaction definitions) which each include a respective list (list of operations), the lists each including a subset of the function (operations), source (input), and destination portions (output), and the subsets being mutually exclusive (fig. 2, col. 4, lines 45-54; col. 10, lines 3-50).

As to claims 6-10, reference is made to a computer readable medium which corresponds to the method of claims 1-5 and is therefore met by the rejection of claims 1-5 above.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lewis A. Bullock, Jr. whose telephone number is (703) 305-0439. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng An can be reached on (703) 305-9678. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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